

.. Appl. No. 09/608,982  
Amdt. Dated 1/18/05  
Reply to Office action of February 19, 2004

#### Remarks

This Amendment is in response to an Office Action mailed February 19, 2004. In the Office Action, claims 2-3, 5-11, 14-16, 18, 20-25 and 28-30 were objected to and considered to contain allowable subject matter. In order to place these claims in condition for allowance, claims 5, 7, 9, 15, 20, 22, 24 and 29 have been amended to correct informalities set forth on Page 2 of the Office Action. Claims 4, 12, 19 and 26 have been cancelled without prejudice, and thus, withdrawal of the outstanding §112 (second paragraph) rejection is respectfully requested.

Based on these amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims, namely claims 2-3, 5-11, 14-16, 18, 20-25 and 28-30, are in condition for allowance.

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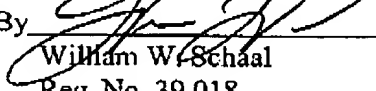
### Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 1/18/05

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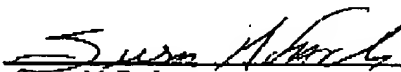
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